

STORY 56.

A SENSITIVE CONSCIENCE.

ONCE (Hazrat) Osman the third Khalifa of the Prophet pulled the ears of a slave. He at once felt remorse and calling the slave said to him, "Take your revenge and pull my ears just as I have pulled yours". The slave did as he was told. After this (Hazrat) Osman set him free.

STORY 57.

A TRUE MUSLIM'S CONTEMPT OF WORDLY POSSESSIONS.

THE vast Muslim conquests had brought untold wealth to Medina, and the Muslims began to live in stately mansions, wealth had brought degeneration in its train and the simplicity of the time of the Prophet and his two immediate successors had given place to Roman and Persian luxury and extravagance.

But (Hazrat) Abuzar Ghaffari who had imbibed the true spirit of Islam, and who still remembered the true message of the Prophet thought it a sin to keep silver and gold in his house.

Muaviya the governor of Syria lived in great state, and the Arab nobles vied with the Roman grandees in their costly living. (Hazrat) Abuzar upbraided them openly for their departure from Islam and did not spare even Muaviya.

(Hazrat) Abuzar the exponent of Islamic Socialism in those days, had scented the danger which threatened Islamic Society and ultimately brought about its decline.